

**Montana Department of Military Affairs
Disaster & Emergency Services Division
State Emergency Coordination Center**

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Situation Report for September 6, 2003 (issued @ 14:00 hrs.)

Wildfires of 2003

Attention * - New information shown in today's report displayed in ***Bold Italics*** type.

I. Background Information:

On 8/07/03, Governor Judy Martz signed Executive Order # 16-03 in which she declared a statewide disaster thereby enabling mobilization of state resources (including the Montana National Guard) should they be needed to help protect the life, health and/or property of Montana's citizens. This declaration supplements Executive Order # 14-03, a statewide emergency declaration issued on 7/18/03. The State Emergency Coordination Center has been activated since 7/18/03.

II. Current Montana Fire Situation: *Minimal initial attack - 9 new fires 16,494 acres*

A. Large Fires

Northern Rockies Preparedness Level = 5

National Preparedness Level = 5

- *Northwest Area Command (Mann) is managing the following large fires:*
 - *Blackfoot Lake Complex – Type 1 Incident Management Team (Mortier) – 25,966 acres, 4% contained, 19 miles E of Kalispell, MT.*
 - *Middle Fork Complex – Type 1 Incident Management Team (Cable) – 9,640 acres, 5% contained, 5 miles E of West Glacier, Montana.*
 - *Wedge Canyon – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Saleen) – 51,435 acres, 81% contained, 42 miles N of Columbia Falls, Montana.*
 - *Rampage Complex – Type 1 Incident Management Team (Cable) – 20,526 acres, 0% contained, 15 miles SE of West Glacier, Montana.*
 - *Little Salmon Creek Wildland Fire Complex – Fire Use Management Team (Weldon) – 18,095 acres, 0% contained, located 47 miles SE of Kalispell,*
 - *Montana in the Bob Marshall Wilderness.*
 - *Little Salmon Creek Fire Use Complex – Fire Use Management Team (Weldon).*
 - *This 32,307 acre lightning caused Wildland Fire Use complex is located 47 miles SE of Kalispell, Montana in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. This complex is being managed to accomplish resource objectives.*
 - *Robert – Type 1 Incident Management Team (Cable) – 52,648 acres, 60% contained, 8 miles N of Columbia Falls, Montana.*
 - *Trapper Creek Complex – 19,107 acres, 45% contained, 45 statute miles NE of Kalispell, Montana.*
 - *Crazy Horse – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Chrisman) – 11,200 acres, 80% contained, 10 miles NE of St. Ignatius, Montana.*
- *Missoula Area Command (Ribar) is managing the following fires:*
 - *Fish Creek Complex – Type 1 Incident Management Team (Lohrey) – 35,700 acres, 50% contained, 24 miles W of Missoula, Montana.*
 - *Cooney Ridge – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Kechter) – 25,020 acres,*

- 70% contained, 11 miles E of Florence, Montana.
 - Mineral/Primm – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Broyles) – 24,409 acres, 70% contained, 19 miles NE of Missoula, Montana.
 - Gold 1 – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Swope) – 8,296 acres, 85% contained, 9 miles NE of Corvallis, Montana.
- Lincoln Complex – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Hoff) – 39,604 acres, 77% contained, 10 miles W of Lincoln, Montana.
- Cathedral Peak – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Benes) – 2,778 acres, 40% contained, 10 miles S of Nye, Montana.
- Rathbone – Type 2 Incident Management Team (VanBruggen) – 3,010 acres, 95% contained, 17 miles N of West Yellowstone, Montana.
- Winslow – 13,438 acres, 65% contained, 5 miles SW of Lakeview, Montana.
- Beaver Lake Complex – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Brunner) – 24,495 acres, 60% contained, 19 miles SW of Missoula, Montana.
- Burnt Ridge Sheep Camp Complex – Type 2 Incident Management Team (Larsen) – 2,930 acres, 95% contained, 12 miles SE of Neihart, Montana.
- Rough Draw Complex – 2,148 acres, 95% contained, 5 miles S of Livingston, Montana.
- East Complex – 23,500 acres, 90% contained, 4 miles E of Fishing Bridge Junction, Yellowstone National Park.
- Brundage - Fire Use Management Team (Cook) has been ordered, 1,500 acres, 0% contained, 10 miles NE of Gardner, Montana.
- Mollman – 260 acres, 70% contained, 5 miles SE of Ronan, Montana. This will be the last report unless significant activity occurs.

B. Initial Attack *Minimal initial attack - 5 new fires 12,826 acres*

C. State Forecast For Montana
STATE FORECAST FOR MONTANA
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GREAT FALLS MT
500 AM MDT SAT SEP 6 2003

WEST OF THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE

Today - Partly Cloudy. Areas Of Smoke Central And North. Isolated Showers And Thunderstorms South. Highs 83 To 93.

Tonight - Partly Cloudy. Areas Of Smoke. Slight Chance Of Evening Showers And Thunderstorms South. Lows 44 To 54.

Sunday - Partly Cloudy. Areas Of Smoke. Slight Chance Of Showers And Thunderstorms In The Evening. Highs 82 To 92.

CENTRAL MONTANA

Today - Partly Cloudy. Highs In The Lower 80s To Lower 90s.

Tonight - Partly Cloudy. Slight Chance Of An Evening Thunderstorm. Lows In The Upper 40s To Mid 50s.

Sunday - Partly Cloudy. Highs In The Upper 70s To Upper 80s.

SOUTHWEST MONTANA

Today - Partly Cloudy. Chance Of Showers And Thunderstorms In The Afternoon. Highs In The Lower 70s To Lower 80s.

Tonight - Partly Cloudy. Chance Of Showers And Thunderstorms. Lows In The Mid 40s To Lower 50s.

Sunday - Partly Cloudy. Highs In The Lower 70s To Lower 80s.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN MONTANA

Today - Partly Cloudy. A Chance Of Thunderstorms Southwest. Highs In The Middle 80s To Middle 90s...60s And 70s Mountains.

Tonight - Partly Cloudy. A Chance Of Showers And Thunderstorms In The Evening. Lows In The Lower 50s To Lower 60s...40s Mountains.

Sunday - Partly Cloudy. Highs Middle 80s To Middle 90s...60s And 70s Mountains.

III. Summary of Actions being taken by Local Government Officials:

The following local jurisdictions have made the following declarations:

Cascade County	Emergency Declaration (Box Canyon/Long Mtn.)	7/15/03
Garfield County	Disaster Declaration (Missouri Breaks)	7/15/03
Beaverhead County	Emergency Resolution (multiple fires)	7/17/03
Ravalli County	Emergency Declaration (Big Creek)	7/20/03
Flathead County	Emergency Declaration (Wedge Canyon)	7/21/03
Sanders County	Resolution (Stage II Fire Restrictions)	7/29/03
Fallon County	Resolution (Stage I Fire Restrictions)	8/04/03
CSKT Flathead	Resolution (Tribal/Forest/Range Closure)	8/04/03
Blaine County	Emergency Declaration (150 acre fire)	8/06/03
Park County	Emergency Declaration (Rough Draw Fire)	8/11/03
Sweet Grass County	Disaster Declaration – (Hobble [Diamond] Fire)	8/12/03
Custer County	Emergency Declaration	8/13/03
Musselshell County	Emergency Declaration	8/13/03
Granite County	Disaster Declaration	8/15/03
Custer County	Emergency Declaration	8/13/03
Stillwater County	Emergency Declaration	8/16/03
Sanders County	Emergency Declaration	8/19/03
Ravalli County	Emergency Declaration	8/19/03
Lewis and Clark County	Emergency Declaration	8/15/03
Judith Basin County	Emergency Declaration	8/19/03
Missoula County	Emergency Declaration	8/10/03
Carbon County	Emergency Declaration	8/10/03
Dawson County	Emergency Declaration	8/27/03

The US Small Business Administration has issued a Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9W74 for the following counties:

Flathead	Sanders	Chouteau	Missoula
Glacier	Teton	Jefferson	Pondera
Lake	Broadwater	Meagher	Powell
Lewis & Clark	Cascade	Mineral	Toole
Lincoln			

IV. - Summary of State Activities and Resources Committed:

Current Montana National Guard Resources

Montana Army Guard		EQUIPMENT	Montana Air Guard
NG SOLDIERS	AIRCRAFT MODULES	ARMY & AIR GUARD EQUIPMENT	NG AIRMEN
	3 UH-60S	68 HMMVs	
		3 HEMTTs (Fuelers)	
		6 1 ¼ TRAILER	
		18 M-35 2 ½ TON TRUCKS	
		5 M1009 TRUCK	
		4 HEMTT (Wrecker)	
		14 Pick Up	
		2 VANS	
		1 7-TON TRUCK	
		1 25' FLATBED TRAILER	
		1 M939 SERIES 5T CARGO	
		3 CUCV	
		1 One Ton	
225 Soldiers Assigned	3 Aircraft Modules	127 HVY Equipment	209 Airmen Assigned

Status of State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC)

- Montana DES is providing support to local governments through the State Emergency Coordination Center in Helena. The SECC is currently operating at Activation Level III. Level III operations will include a full staff 0700-1900 daily.
- Currently DES Agency Representatives are assigned to:
Northwest Area Command
Missoula Area Command

The State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) will continue to monitor conditions and is prepared to provide 24-hour incident support to local governments. After office hours (i.e., 1900-0700) support is available through the DES Duty Officer who may be reached at (406) 841-3911.

V. FEMA Grants:

FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grants have been approved for:

- Missouri Breaks Complex
- Wedge Canyon
- Robert
- Hobble
- Cherry Creek
- Fires burning in portions of Missoula, Ravalli and Mineral Counties
- Lincoln Complex
- Flathead County Zone

VI. Fire Restrictions, Closures and Evacuations:

For the latest fire restrictions:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/fireseason/2003/MTmain.htm>

For the latest on smoke management and air quality Updates:

<http://www.deq.state.mt.us/FireUpdates/index.asp>

For the latest closures and evacuations:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/2003fires/evacuations_road_closures

For detailed information on specific fires or priorities:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcc/detailed_sit.htm

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcc/mac2003/mac_priorities.doc